

Application No. 10/519,506
Amendment Dated August 2, 2006
Reply to Office Action of May 8, 2006

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed May 8, 2006, has been carefully considered by Applicant. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing claim amendments and the remarks that follow.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 11 and 12 are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By the present Amendment, claim 11 is rewritten as independent claim 16 and includes the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Claim 17 replaces claim 12 and depends from claim 16. As such, claims 16 and 17 are believed in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Martin et al U.S. Patent No. 1,938,036. Claims 13-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Becker et al U.S. Patent No. 3,886,885 in view of Martin et al '036.

By the present Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10 and 13-15 are cancelled, thus rendering the rejections regarding those claims moot. Claim 5 is amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention, and render the same allowable over the applied references.

Claim 5 is amended to recite that the pipe is provided with at least one guide and the guide is arranged to reduce displacement of the pipe in the radial direction. The guide is located between the upper and lower ends of the tank body and is displaceable in the longitudinal direction of the cargo pressure tank.

The cited references fail altogether to teach or suggest the claimed guide being located between the upper and lower ends of the tank body and being displaceable in the longitudinal directions of the cargo pressure tank. Becker et al '885 fails altogether to teach a guide structure. The Examiner cites Martin et al '036, element 11, which limits

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radial movement of the tube. However, contrary to the Examiner's statement in paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the top element 11 is not displaceable in the longitudinal direction of the cargo pressure tank. Rather, top element 11 is a stationary portion of the valve which is fixedly attached to the top of the cylinder 19.

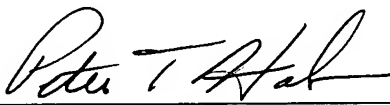
In view of these comments, claim 5 is believed allowable over the applied references. Claims 2, 6, 9, 11 and 12 depend directly or indirectly from claim 5 and are thus also believed in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

The present application is thus believed in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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